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NOTICES OF NEW BOOKS.

A TREATISE ON THE LAW OF EXECUTORS AND ADMINISTRATORS, by EDWARD VAUGHAN WILLIAMS, of Lincoln's Inn, Eng., Barrister at Law, (now one of the Judges of her Majesty's Court of Common Pleas.) Fifth American, from the last London edition. With Notes and References to the American Authorities, by ASA I. FISH. Philadelphia: H. P. & R. H. Small. 1859. 2 vols.

This is one of those few standard text books, whose value appears to increase, rather than be affected by lapse of time. They occupy the field with a prescriptive right, and exclude competition by the completeness of their merit. Williams on Executors is too well known to need any praise, but it may be well to repeat what has been often said of it, that it is by far the most accurate and systematic book on the subject. The well merited appointment of its author to a seat in the Common Pleas, gives now an additional weight to its authority.

The present impression, as is stated in the publisher's advertisement, "is not a reprint of former ones, but an entirely new and much enlarged English edition is now reproduced, to which has been added a large body of American notes." Of the merits of the latter, it does not, indeed, become us to speak; but we are certainly at liberty to say that the mechanical execution of the book is of the best kind.

A SELECTION OF LEADING CASES IN EQUITY. With Notes, by FREDERICK THOMAS WHITE and OWEN DAVIES TUDOR, of the Middle Temple, Esqs., Barristers at Law. With Annotations containing References to American Cases, by I. CLARK HARE and H. B. WALLACE. With additional Notes and References to American Decisions, by I. CLARK HARE. Third American, from the second London edition. Philadelphia: T. & J. W. Johnson. 1859. 3 vols.

The notes of Judge Hare and the late Mr. Wallace to Smith's Leading Cases, to the Leading Cases in Equity, and to their own collection of American Leading Cases, have obtained a great and increasing reputation at home and abroad. For thoroughness of investigation, grasp of thought, and acuteness and originality of discussion, they stand in the foremost rank.

These qualities are so well known that it is scarcely necessary for us to do more than call attention to this new edition of the Leading Cases in Equity. We may say, however, that it contains a large amount of new matter, and that the English and American authorities are brought down to the latest period.

The topics discussed in these notes are very various, and cover all the principal heads of equity jurisprudence. It would, perhaps, add to the convenience of these volumes for practical use if, in future editions, an analysis of these subjects, according to the arrangement adopted in some standard text book, such as Story or Adams, were prefixed to the first volume, and the index consolidated. For the present, we have made out such a table from the general headings of the different notes, which we subjoin, as though but roughly prepared for our own purpose, it may prove of advantage to others. The arrangement followed is that of Mr. Adams' useful work.

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